terms conditions stipulated in the approval, the fish landing center was to be completed by the end of March, 1997. The State Government did not commence the construction, instead submitted a revised proposal in June, 2003 with a cost escalation from Rs. 89.53 lakhs to Rs. 225 lakhs. After scrutiny of the proposal, the Estate has been asked to redraft the Detailed Project Report and to refund the Central share Rs. 10 lakhs earlier released to them togetherwith interest.

Supply of spurious seeds and pesticides

1115. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite good monsoon this year, the farmers in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and areas around suffered a lot due to supply of spurious seeds and pesticides;

(b) if so, the districts mainly affected thereby; and

(c) whether the Central Government had been apprised of the problems of the farmers in time; if so, what aid was given by Government to help the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Assistance for animal husbandry to States

1116. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of funds allocated to States, West Bengal in particular, to promote animal husbandry and dairy during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 has released Rs. 95.43 crores, Rs. 114.17 crores and Rs. 125.48 crores respectively for the promotion of animal husbandry and dairy in the

States, of which the State of West Bengal has been provided with Rs. 1.44 crores and Rs. 10.25 crores and Rs. 3.17 crores respectively for the corresponding period.

Agricultural growth

1117. DR. A.R. KIDWAI:
DR.T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advocated private sector participation and substantive reforms in policies to achieve economies of scales in agriculture;

(b) if so, whether India has not been able to achieve the agricultural reforms in the country, so far;

(c) whether Centre has assessed that there will be a handsome rise in farm production during the current year;

(d) whether keeping in view of the good monsoon, Government have fixed a target of growth in agriculture; and

(e) whether sufficient places have been found to accommodate the increased production of foodgrains in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Agriculture Policy, 2000 outlines the intention of the Government to promote private sector participation by allowing accelerated technology transfer, capital inflow and assured markets for crop production.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. the foodgrains production target for the year 2003-04 has been fixed at 220 MTs as against 182.27 MTs in the year 2002-03.